

Amendment

In response to the Office Action dated March 19, 2002, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter and consider the following amendments and remarks in the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 25 and 68 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 29, 44, 72, and 87 as follows. A marked-up copy of Claims 1, 29, 44, 72, and 87 showing the changes made thereto, is attached. Note that all the claims currently pending in this application, including those not presently being amended, have been reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

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1. (Three Times Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:
input means for entering information;
first output processing means for printing the information entered at said input means as a first output processing operation;
storage means for storing printing information which has been printed by said first output processing means as hysteresis data for printing;
data selection means for selecting one of the hysteresis data from said storage means;
output processing selection means for selecting one of a plurality of types of output processing which is different from the printing as a second output processing operation;
and

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second output processing means for performing the second output processing operation on the printed information contained in the hysteresis data selected by said data selection means.

3. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said storage means stores associated information, as well as an operation that was performed as hysteresis data.

4. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising analyzation means for analyzing the contents of an operation performed at said input means or by said first processing means, and for acquiring said associated information for said operation.

5. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said input means includes operation entry means manipulated by a user.

6. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said input means includes reception means for receiving an instruction or information from an external device.

7. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said instruction includes an instruction from a user for an external device.

8. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said input means includes detection means for detecting a status.

9. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said associated information includes information concerning a person relative to an operation.

10. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said information concerning a person includes a person who has issued an instruction or has performed an operation.

11. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said input means includes reading means for reading and inputting image data.

12. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said associated information includes information concerning time for execution.

13. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said associated information includes information concerning a location for execution.

14. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said associated information includes information concerning an apparatus for execution.

16. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said associated information includes associated hysteresis information to correlate with hysteresis information for another associated operation.

17. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said associated hysteresis information is used to store hysteresis data for a series of operations correlated with each other.

18. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said associated hysteresis information includes information to correlate with hysteresis information for preceding and succeeding operations of said series of operations.

19. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said storage means stores said hysteresis data in correlation with an object in a process other than a process performed by said first processing means.

20. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said object includes one of file data, schedule data, information that is pending to be processed, information managed by a database, information extracted from specific information, mail information, and device management information.

21. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising designation means for designating a condition with which said storage means stores said hysteresis data.

22. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said designation means determines for each operation whether or not said hysteresis data are to be stored.

23. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said designation means determines for each operation whether or not an object to be processed is to be stored.

24. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said designation means designates a person who is permitted to refer to said hysteresis data.

26. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising control means for controlling said process performed by said first processing means based on said hysteresis data stored in said storage means.

27. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said control means controls performance or cancellation of said process performed by said first processing means.

C² 29. (Three Times Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said second output processing operation performed by said second output processing means is an output of an instruction to another apparatus to execute a predetermined process on the printed information.

30. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said second output processing operation performed by said second processing means includes one of printing, displaying, transmitting, and saving.

32. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said storage means stores hysteresis data in correlation with an object to be processed by said second processing means.

33. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the selection performed by said data selection means includes a search for hysteresis data.

34. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the selection performed by said data selection means includes display of a list of hysteresis data that are searched for and a selection of one of the hysteresis data in the list.

35. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the selection performed by said data selection means includes display of a list of hysteresis data that are stored in said storage means.

36. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the selection performed by said data selection means includes a process for selecting specific hysteresis data from said list of hysteresis data.

39. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of function units, wherein hysteresis of an operation that is completed within a specific function unit is stored independently of hysteresis stored in said storage means.

40. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising acquisition means for acquiring hysteresis data for another apparatus, wherein said second processing means employs said hysteresis data obtained by said acquisition means and said hysteresis data stored in said storage means to perform a process.

41. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 40, wherein said second processing means displays said hysteresis data for another apparatus, which are obtained by said acquisition means, and said hysteresis data of said information processing apparatus, which are stored in said storage means.

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44. (Three Times Amended) An information processing method comprising:
an input step of entering information;
a first output processing step of printing the information entered at said input means as
a first output processing operation;

a storage step of storing printed information which has been printed at said first output processing step as hysteresis data for printing;

a data selection step of selecting one of the hysteresis data stored at said storage step;

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an output processing selection step of selecting one of a plurality of types of output processing which is different from the printing as a second output processing operation;

and

a second output processing step of performing the second output processing operation on the printed information contained in the hysteresis data selected at said data selection step.

46. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein at said storage step associated information is stored as well as an operation that was performed as hysteresis data.

47. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 46, further comprising an analyzation step of analyzing the contents of an operation performed at said input step or at said first processing step, and of acquiring said associated information for said operation.

48. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein said input step includes an operation entry step manipulated by a user.

49. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein said input step includes a reception step of receiving an instruction or information from an external device.

50. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 49, wherein said instruction includes an instruction from a user for an external device.

51. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein said input step includes a detection step of detecting a status.

52. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein said associated information includes information concerning a person relative to an operation.

53. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 52, wherein said information concerning a person includes a person who has issued an instruction or has performed an operation.

54. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein said input step includes a reading step of reading and inputting image data.

55. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 46 wherein said associated information includes information concerning time for execution.

56. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 46, wherein said associated information includes information concerning a location for execution.

57. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 46, wherein said associated information includes information concerning an apparatus for execution.

59. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 46, wherein said associated information includes associated hysteresis information to correlate with hysteresis information for another associated operation.

60. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 59, wherein said associated hysteresis information is used to store hysteresis data for a series of operations correlated with each other

61. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 59, wherein said associated hysteresis information includes information to correlate with hysteresis information for preceding and succeeding operations of said series of operations.

62. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 51, wherein at said storage step said hysteresis data are stored in correlation with an object in a process other than a process performed at said first processing step.

63. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 62, wherein said object includes one of file data, schedule data, information that is pending to be processed, information managed by a database, information extracted from specific information, mail information, and device management information.

64. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, further comprising a designation step of designating a condition with which said hysteresis data are stored at said storage means.

65. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 64, wherein, at said designation step, whether said hysteresis data are to be stored is determined for each operation.

66. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 64, wherein at said designation step, whether a substance of an object to be processed is to be stored is determined for each operation.

67. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 64, wherein a person who is permitted to refer to said hysteresis data is designated at said designation step.

69. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, further comprising a control step of controlling said process performed at said first processing step based on said hysteresis data stored at said storage step.

70. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 69, wherein re-performance or cancellation of said process performed at said first processing step is controlled at said control step.

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72. (Twice Amended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein said second output processing operation performed at said second processing step is an output of an instruction to another apparatus to execute a predetermined process on the printed information.

73. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein said second output processing operation performed at said second processing step includes one of printing, displaying, transmitting, and saving.

75. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein, at said storage step, hysteresis data is stored in correlation with an object to be processed at said second processing step.

76. (Unamended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 44, wherein the selection performed at said data selection step includes a search for hysteresis data.

77. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 76, wherein the selection performed at said data selection step includes display of a list of hysteresis data that are searched for and a selection of one of the hysteresis data in the list.

78. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein the selection performed at said data selection step includes display of a list of hysteresis data that are stored at said storage step.

79. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein the selection performed at said data selection step includes a process for selecting specific hysteresis data from said list of hysteresis data.

82. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, further comprising a plurality of function steps, wherein hysteresis of an operation that is completed only at a specific function step is stored independently of hysteresis stored at said storage step.

83. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, further comprising an acquisition step of acquiring hysteresis data for another apparatus, wherein a

process at said second processing step is performed by employing said hysteresis data obtained at said acquisition step and said hysteresis data stored at said storage step.

84. (Unamended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein, at said second processing step, displayed are said hysteresis data for another apparatus, which are obtained by said acquisition means, and said hysteresis data of a subject information processing apparatus, which are stored at said storage step.

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87. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable storage medium on which is stored an information processing program for permitting a computer to perform information processing, said program comprising codes for causing said computer to perform:

- an input step of entering information;
- a first output processing step of printing the information entered at said input step as a first output processing operation;
- a storage step of storing the printed information which has been printed at said first output processing step as hysteresis data for printing;
- a data selection step of selecting one of the hysteresis data stored at said storage step;
- an output processing selection step of selecting one of a plurality of types of output processing which is different from the printing as a second output processing operation;
- and
- a second output processing step of performing the second output processing operation on the printed information contained in the hysteresis data selected at said data selection step.